



## TEXAS DRUG CONTROL UPDATE

*This report reflects significant trends, data, and major issues relating to drugs in the State of Texas.*

### Texas At-a-Glance:

- The number of meth lab seizure incidents in the state of Texas increased 67%, from 93 incidents in 2007 to 155 incidents in 2009.  
*Source: El Paso Intelligence Center's National Seizure System (EPIC-NSS)*
- Approximately 6 percent of Texas residents reported past-month use of illicit drugs; the national average was 8 percent.
- The rate of drug-induced deaths in Texas is lower than the national average.
- Marijuana is the most commonly cited drug among primary drug treatment admissions in Texas.

## Drug Use Trends in Texas

**Drug Use in Texas:** The National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) provides national and state-level data on the use of tobacco, alcohol, illicit drugs (including non-medical use of prescription drugs), and mental health in the United States. In the most recent Survey, 6.26 percent of Texas residents reported using illicit drugs in the past month. The national average was 8.02 percent. Additionally, 3.3 percent of Texas residents reported using an illicit drug other than marijuana in the past month (the national average was 3.58 percent).

*Source: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration - State Estimates of Substance Use from the 2007–2008 National Survey on Drug Use and Health: <http://oas.samhsa.gov/2k8/state/Cover.pdf>*

**Drug-Induced Deaths:** As a direct consequence of drug use, 2,343 persons died in Texas in 2007. This is compared to the number of persons in Texas who died from motor vehicle accidents (3,800) and firearms (2,561) in the same year. Texas drug-induced deaths (9.8 per 100,000 population) were lower than the national rate (12.7 per 100,000).

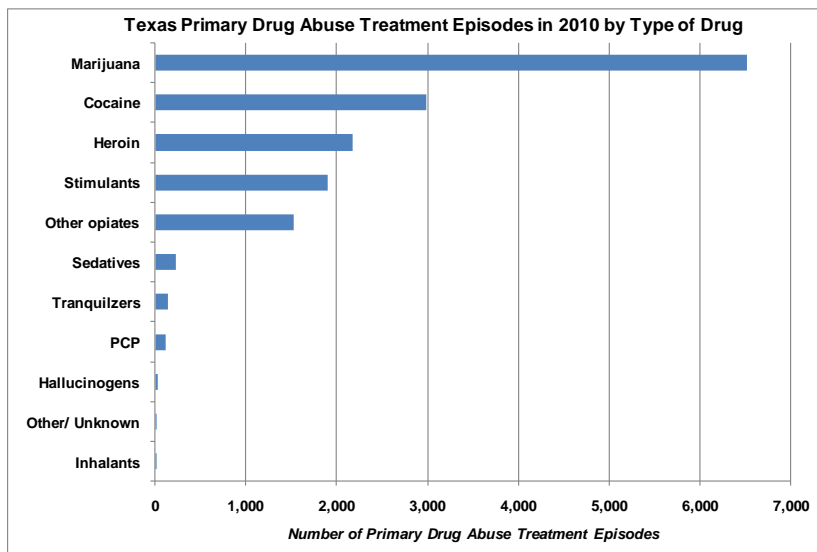
*Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - National Vital Statistics Reports Volume 58, Number 19 for 2007: [http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr58/nvsr58\\_19.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr58/nvsr58_19.pdf)*

## Substance Abuse Treatment Admissions Data

### Texas Primary Treatment Admissions:

The graph at right depicts substance abuse primary treatment admissions in Texas in 2010. The data show marijuana is the most commonly cited drug among primary drug treatment admissions in the state.

*Source: Treatment Episode Data Set, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration: <http://oas.samhsa.gov/dasis.htm>*



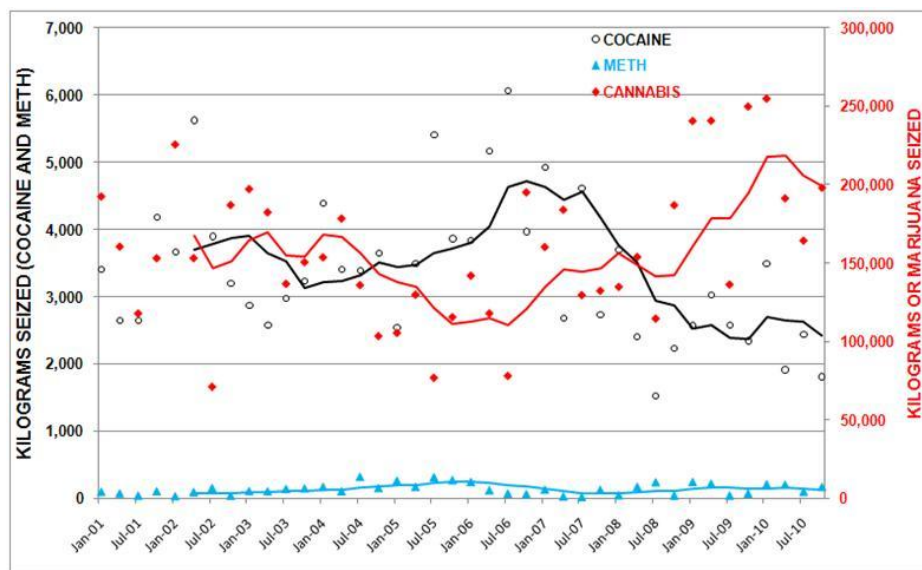
## Southwest Border Drug Seizure Data

### Texas Border Drug Seizure Data:

The amount of cannabis seized along the Texas portion of the Southwest Border steadily increased over the period 2006 to 2010, while cocaine has dropped continuously from its highest levels in 2006.

Methamphetamine seizures on the border remain at very low levels.

Source: National Seizure System (NSS), EPIC, extracted 1/14/11



Quarterly Southwest Border drug seizures in Texas 2001-2010

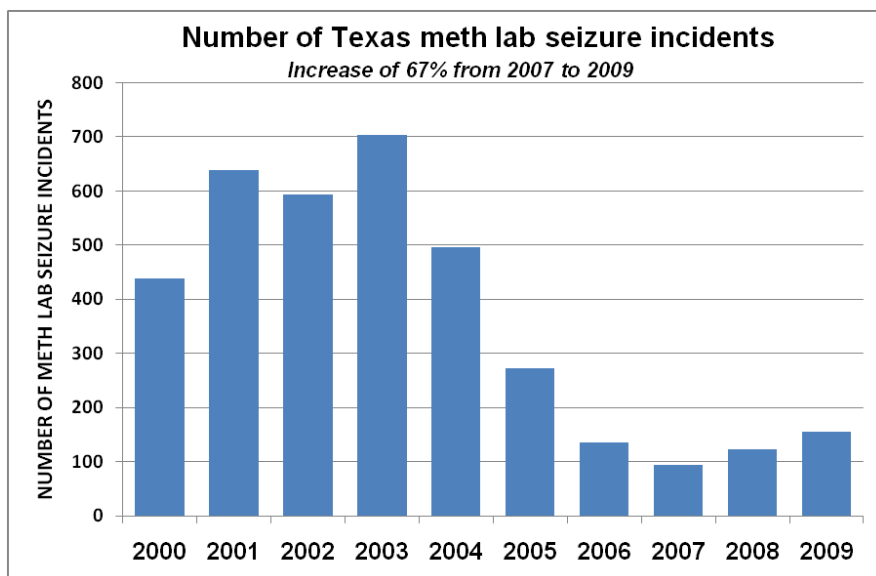
## Methamphetamine Lab Seizures

### Methamphetamine Seizures:

Nationwide, methamphetamine lab seizures declined drastically following the 2005 Federal Combating Methamphetamine Epidemic Act (CMEA) and similar state laws to control the sale of pseudoephedrine (PSE).

Recently, the number of meth labs seized has risen due to “smurfing,” which is the bulk purchase of PSE for non-therapeutic reasons, and due to smaller, more mobile “one-pot” labs. Nationwide, meth lab seizures rose 76% between 2007 and 2009. Meth lab seizures in Texas rose 32% from 2007 to 2009, while staying well below peak levels in 2003.

Source: EPIC, NSS, extracted 11/2010



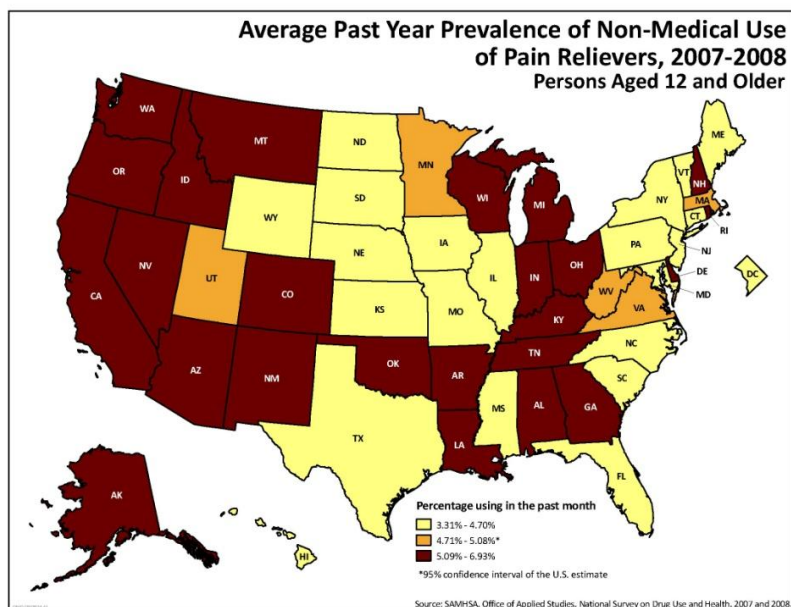
### Example of State-Level Action: Return pseudoephedrine to prescription-drug status

Facing a steep increase in meth lab incidents, the state of Oregon returned medicines containing PSE to prescription-drug status in 2006. Several years later, the results are promising, with meth lab incidents declining from a high of 467 in 2004 (prior to enactment of the bill) to 12 in 2009 and Oregon officials reporting a virtual “eradication” of smurfing and meth labs. Experiencing a similar rise in meth lab production and trafficking, Mississippi enacted similar legislation, which took effect on July 1, 2010. Mississippi reports that after six months, there has been a nearly 70 percent reduction in meth-related cases statewide.

## Prescription Drug Abuse

### ONDCP's Efforts to Combat Prescription Drug Abuse

Prescription drug abuse is the fastest-growing drug problem in the Nation. The Administration's Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention Plan, entitled, "**Epidemic: Responding to America's Prescription Drug Abuse Crisis,**" provides a national framework for reducing prescription drug diversion and abuse by supporting the expansion of state-based prescription drug monitoring programs; recommending secure, more convenient, and environmentally responsible disposal methods to remove expired, unused, or unneeded medications from the home; supporting education for patients and healthcare providers; and reducing the prevalence of pill mills and doctor shopping through enforcement efforts.



### State-Level Action: Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs (PDMPs)

PDMPs track controlled substances prescribed by authorized practitioners and dispensed by pharmacies. PDMPs serve a number of functions, including assisting in patient care, providing early warning signs of drug epidemics, and detecting drug diversion and insurance fraud. Thirty-five states have operational PDMP programs established by state legislation and funded by a combination of state and Federal funds. An additional 13 states have a prescription drug monitoring program authorized, but not yet operational. Adequate resourcing, increasing the number of states with operational PDMPs, and development of state-to-state information-sharing systems would significantly help reduce prescription drug diversion and abuse.

The **Texas Prescription Program** became operational in 1982 under Texas Health and Safety Code, Chapter 481, Sections 481.074-481.0761, which was enacted in 1981. The Program, under the Texas Department of Public Safety, monitors controlled substances in Schedules II, III, IV, and V. Data are collected bi-weekly. From September 1, 2008, to August 31, 2009, nearly 35 million prescription records were collected.

Source: Alliance of States with Prescription Monitoring Programs: <http://www.pmpalliance.org/content/texas-state-profile>

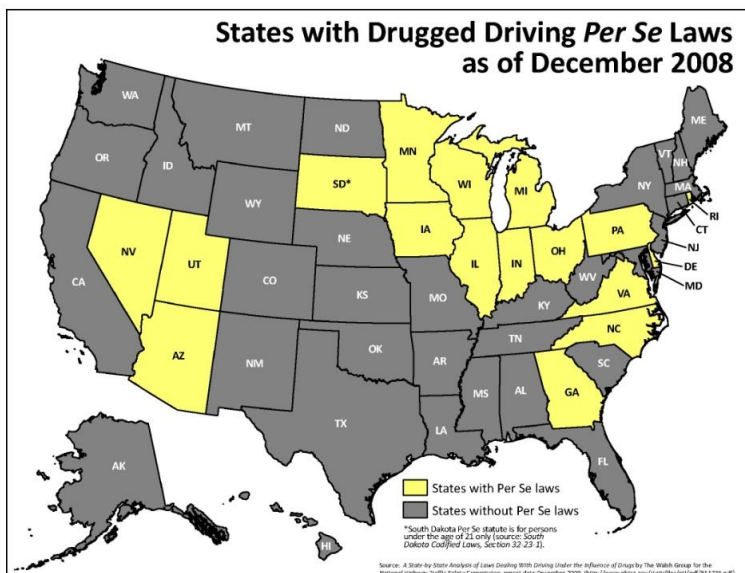
### State-Level Action: Drug Take-Back Programs

A comprehensive plan to address prescription drug abuse must include proper disposal of unused, unneeded, or expired medications. Providing individuals with a secure and convenient way to dispose of controlled substances will help prevent diversion and abuse of these substances and demonstrate sound environmental stewardship. Federal rulemaking is underway and will further enhance the viability and scope of state and community take-back programs. In the meantime, states are encouraged to work with the DEA to conduct additional take-back events and educate the public about safe and effective drug return and disposal.

## Drugged Driving

### ONDCP Action on Drugged Driving

In 2007, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) found that one in eight weekend, nighttime drivers tested positive for illicit drugs. According to recent Fatal Accident Reporting System (FARS) data, one in three motor vehicle fatalities (33 percent) with known drug test results tested positive for drugs in 2009. Recognizing this growing problem, ONDCP is working to raise awareness of the dangers of drugged driving, provide increased training to law enforcement in identifying drugged drivers, and encourage states to consider *Per Se* laws to facilitate effective enforcement and prosecution of those who drive with drugs in their systems.



### State-Level Action: Enacting *Per Se* Standards for Impairment

Although all 50 states have laws against drugged driving, law enforcement often lacks adequate tools to enforce and prosecute drugged driving. ONDCP encourages states to develop and implement *Per Se* standards that make it illegal to drive a vehicle after taking illegal drugs. This is the same standard used successfully for 12 million commercial drivers in the United States over the past two decades. *Per Se* standards have been adopted in 17 states.

**Texas does not have a *Per Se* standard.** According to Sections 49.01 and 49.04 of the Texas Penal Code, a person commits an offense if the person is intoxicated while operating a motor vehicle in a public place. Texas' definition of intoxicated is not having the normal use of mental or physical faculties by reason of the introduction of alcohol, a controlled substance, a drug, a dangerous drug, a combination of two or more of those substances, or any other substance into the body.

Source: A State-by-State Analysis of Laws Dealing With Driving Under the Influence of Drugs, by the Walsh Group for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

## ONDCP Support for Community-Based Prevention

### The Drug Free Communities (DFC) Program

Recognizing that local problems require local solutions, Drug Free Communities (DFC) organizations mobilize communities to prevent youth drug use by creating local data-driven strategies to reduce drug use in the community. ONDCP works to foster the growth of new coalitions and support existing coalitions through the DFC grants. In FY 2011, the following Texas coalitions received grants from ONDCP:

- Aransas Citizens Against Drugs
- Bacoda Galveston Community Coalition
- Bay Area Alliance for Youth and Families
- Caring Community Coalition
- Concho Valley Community Awareness & Resources For Empowerment and Success
- Dallas Area Drug Prevention Partnership
- Drugs Kill Campaign, Inc. d/b/a/ The Coalition of Behavioral Health Services
- Higher Dimension Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition
- Hood County Substance Abuse Council
- IMPACT FUTURES! Drug Free Community Coalition
- IMPACT Navarro
- Karnes County Community Coalition
- Kilgore Together/ St. Lukes Methodist Church
- Robertson County Community Coalition
- Texans Standing Tall Inc (TST) (Austin)
- Webb County Community Coalition



## National Anti-Drug Media Campaign

ONDCP's National Youth Anti-Drug Media Campaign provides consistent and credible messages (including those in Native American and Alaska Native communities) to young people about drug abuse and its consequences. *Above the Influence*, a major component of the Campaign, informs and inspires youth to reject illicit drugs and drinking via a mix of national and local advertising vehicles. The Campaign, in close partnership with local community-based, youth-serving organizations, also conducts teen-targeted *Above the Influence* activities to assist local groups with youth drug prevention work in their respective communities.

## ONDCP High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) County Info

The High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) program enhances and coordinates drug control efforts among local, state, and Federal law enforcement agencies. In designated HIDTA counties, the program provides agencies with coordination, equipment, technology, and additional resources to combat drug trafficking and its harmful consequences in critical regions of the United States.

### Southwest Border HIDTA

Southwest Border HIDTA/South Texas Region counties: Bexar, Cameron, Dimmit, Hidalgo, Jim Hogg, Kinney, La Salle, Starr, Maverick, Travis, Val Verde, Webb, Willacy, Zapata, and Zavala.

Southwest Border HIDTA/West Texas Region counties: Brewster, Crockett, Culberson, Ector, El Paso, Hudspeth, Jeff Davis, Midland, Pecos, Presidio, Reeves, and Terrell.

- Texas is home to four HDTAs (Houston, North Texas, Southwest Border HIDTA/South Texas Region, and the Southwest Border HIDTA/West Texas Region).
- The HIDTA program has been integral in targeting the threat of cocaine, marijuana, methamphetamine, heroin, and the illegal use/diversion of prescription drugs.
- The majority of the 23 vehicular international bridges/ports of entry along the 1,254 miles border between Texas and Mexico are in the South Texas Region. The South Texas and West Texas Regions cover that entire span of border from east to west.
- Each HIDTA based in Texas has its own Intelligence initiative, and the Texas Narcotics Information System supports all four HDTAs.
- The principal threats are marijuana, cocaine, methamphetamine, and heroin (methamphetamine more in the South Texas Region and heroin in the West Texas Region).
- The Texas-Mexico border also includes an important corridor for southbound drug proceeds and weapons. The South Texas Region supports 18 enforcement initiatives and 5 intelligence nodes, while the West Texas Region arrays 14 initiatives.
- In 2009, South Texas Region task forces seized 360,783 kg of marijuana, 3,581 kgs of cocaine, 224 kg of methamphetamine, 50 kg of heroin, and \$40,825,608 in cash and assets. West Texas seized 57,000 kg of marijuana, 1,265 kgs of cocaine, 16 kg of methamphetamine, and 21.6 kg of heroin.

### Houston HIDTA

Texas counties: Aransas, Brooks, Fort Bend, Galveston, Hardin, Harris, Jefferson, Jim Wells, Kenedy, Kleberg, Liberty, Montgomery, Nueces, Orange, Refugio, San Patricio, and Victoria.

- The Houston region is a major national hub for Drug Trafficking Organizations moving drugs into the United States from Mexico, and for cash flowing south to Mexico.
- In 2010, Houston HIDTA seized more than 1.5 tons of cocaine, 108 tons of marijuana and 400,000 dosage units of illicit pharmaceutical drugs destined for cities across the United States. In addition, the Houston HIDTA seized over \$25 million in illicit cash and assets derived from the drug trafficking.

- The Houston HIDTA continues to adapt to evolving trends in the sale and distribution of narcotics, and is currently focusing on the growing threats presented by diverted pharmaceuticals and indoor hydroponic marijuana grow houses, in addition to traditional targeting of Drug Trafficking and Money Laundering Organizations.

## **North Texas HIDTA**

Texas Counties: Collin, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Henderson, Hood, Hunt, Johnson, Kaufman, Lubbock, Navarro, Parker, Rockwall, Smith, and Tarrant.

- The North Texas region is a national distribution center for illicit drugs due to its transportation and financial infrastructures and its proximity to Mexico. Ice methamphetamine is the principal drug threat. Mexican DTOs are the primary suppliers of wholesale quantities of methamphetamine, powder cocaine, commercial grade marijuana, and black tar heroin in the area. The DTOs use “cell heads” in Dallas to manage the wholesale narcotic distribution within individual markets.

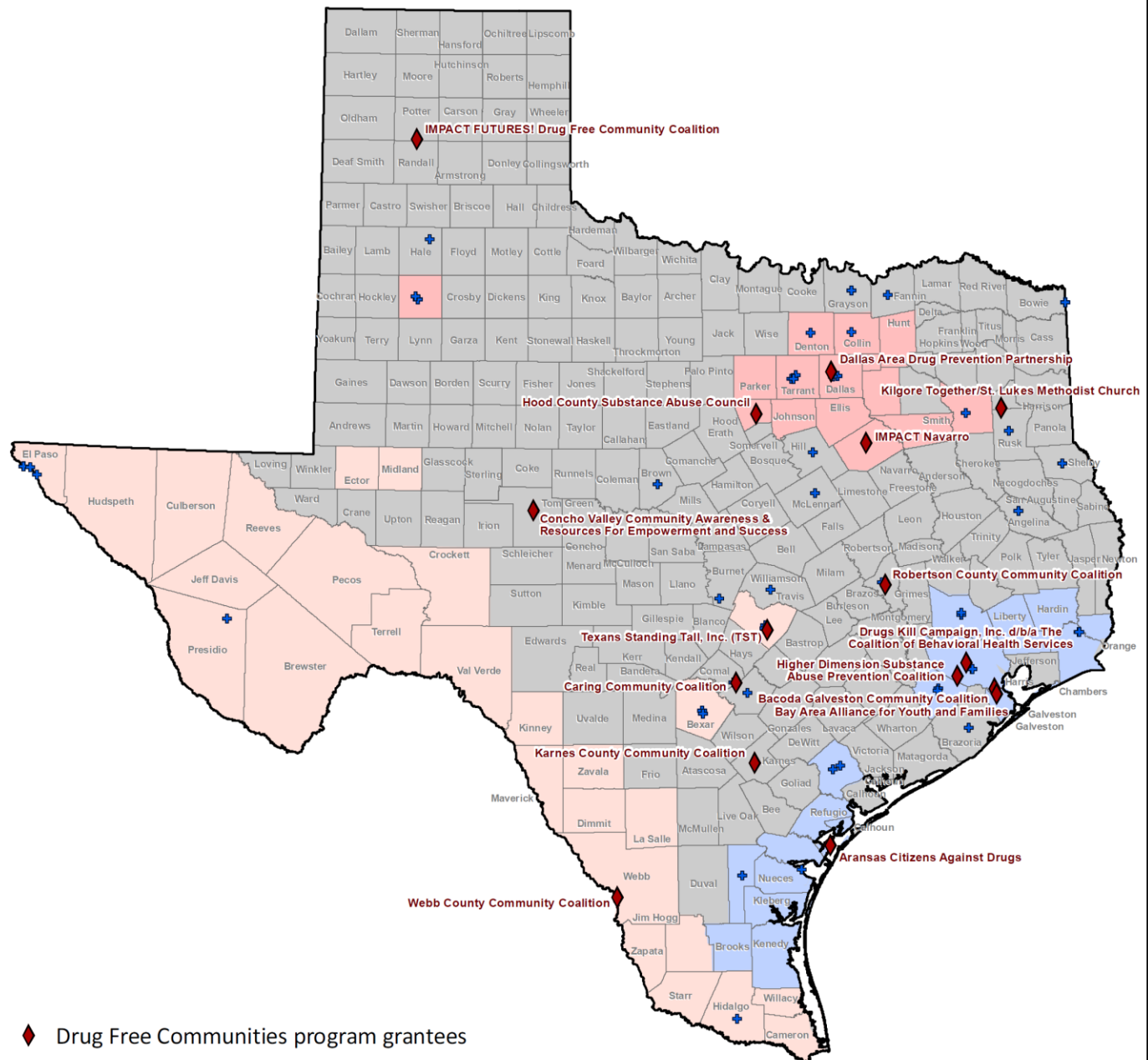
## Federal Grant Awards Available to Reduce Drug Use in the State of Texas

The Federal Government awards competitive grants to help states in their efforts to reduce drug use and its harmful consequences. In FY 2010, direct support was provided to state and local governments, schools, and law enforcement organizations in your state for this purpose. Some Federal grant programs are dedicated to reducing drug use and its harmful consequences while others can be used for reducing drug use or for other purposes. In FY 2010, your State received support under the grant programs shown below.

Federal Grant Awards	2010
<b>Department of Education</b>	
<b>Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities_National Programs</b>	<b>16,580,699</b>
Alcohol Abuse Reduction Grants	2,265,637
Drug And Alcohol Prevention Models On College Campuses	189,000
Grants For Coalitions To Prevent And Reduce Alcohol Abuse At Institutions Of Higher Education	374,838
Grants For School-Based Student Drug-Testing Programs	777,951
Safe Schools/Healthy Students Grants	12,973,273
<b>Department of Health and Human Services</b>	
<b>Administration for Children and Families</b>	<b>42,763,300</b>
Enhance the Safety of Children Affected by Parental Methamphetamine or Other Substance Abuse	1,500,000
Mentoring Children of Prisoners	3,393,445
Promoting Safe and Stable Families	37,869,855
<b>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention</b>	<b>2,776,517</b>
HIV Prevention Activities_Non-Governmental Organization Based	2,776,517
<b>Health Resources and Services Administration</b>	<b>4,510,050</b>
Healthy Start Initiative	4,510,050
<b>Immediate Office of the Secretary of Health and Human Services</b>	<b>247,874</b>
Family and Community Violence Prevention Program	247,874
<b>Indian Health Service</b>	<b>244,040</b>
Urban Indian Health Services	244,040
<b>National Institutes of Health</b>	<b>45,987,280</b>
Discovery and Applied Research for Technological Innovations to Improve Human Health	8,414,382
Drug Abuse and Addiction Research Programs	37,572,898
<b>Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration</b>	<b>167,556,066</b>
Block Grants for Prevention and Treatment of Substance Abuse	136,456,180
Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH)	4,482,000
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services_Projects of Regional and National Significance	26,617,886
<b>Department of Housing and Urban Development</b>	
<b>Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development</b>	<b>4,217,858</b>
Shelter Plus Care	4,217,858
<b>Assistant Secretary for Housing--Federal Housing Commissioner</b>	<b>75,564</b>
Shelter Plus Care	75,564
<b>Department of Justice</b>	
<b>Office of Justice Programs</b>	<b>69,829,980</b>
Community Capacity Development Office	1,569,998
Congressionally Recommended Awards	14,364,000
Criminal and Juvenile Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program	250,000
Drug Court Discretionary Grant Program	967,997
Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program	34,374,823
Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Program	356,400
Gang Resistance Education and Training	35,000
Juvenile Accountability Block Grants	3,255,500
Juvenile Mentoring Program	773,418
National Institute of Justice Research Evaluation and Development Project Grants	7,829,896
Recovery Act - Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program	149,669
Residential Substance Abuse Treatment for State Prisoners	2,782,546
Second Chance Act Prisoner Reentry Initiative	3,120,733
<b>Department of Labor</b>	
<b>Employment and Training Administration</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>
Reintegration of Ex-Offenders	1,000,000
<b>Executive Office of the President</b>	
<b>Office of National Drug Control Policy</b>	<b>26,281,180</b>
High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Program	26,281,180
<b>Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration</b>	<b>2,374,428</b>
Drug-Free Communities Support Program Grants	2,374,428
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>384,444,836</b>

**Note:** Report as of 11/30/2010. FY 2009 includes additional grant awards under the Recovery Act. The Federal, State and Local Shares of Medicaid and the Federal Medicare Programs are not included above. File updated 06/07/2011.

# Office of National Drug Control Policy Programs in Texas with Drug Court Locations



- ◆ Drug Free Communities program grantees
- + Drug Court locations
- Houston HIDTA counties
- North Texas HIDTA counties
- Southwest Border HIDTA counties
- County Boundaries



Source: National Drug Court Institute and ONDCP, September 2011

ONDCP-002813